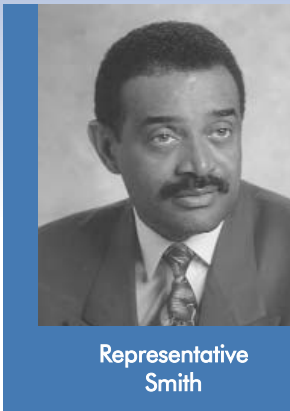


Putting Lake County First

Dr. Vernon G. Smith

State Representative Vernon G. Smith works to bring funding to District 14

I have worked very hard during my time at the Statehouse to make Lake County - and District 14 in particular - a priority when it comes to legislation, funding for projects and road repairs. I have helped more than 60 bills become laws over the past few years, with many of those bills the result of suggestions from you. The Build Indiana Fund and other state programs have received much attention over the past few weeks. I believe these programs are valuable resources and tools for communities to complete projects that otherwise would go unfunded. I am pleased to share the following list of projects along with some updated information on the Build Indiana Fund and some quotes from people affected by many of these endeavors. Please contact me with questions or comments.



What others are saying.....

"Vernon has always had a positive attitude toward the City of Lake Station and its constituents. He has worked diligently in helping to obtain funds for a fire truck and the Civic Center."

--Donna Smelley
--Lake Station Clerk-Treasurer

"I have known Vernon for several years and he has always come through for the City of Lake Station."

--Ron Good
--Lake Station Councilman

"Vernon has been an important figure in public safety and welfare of the city."

--Chief Rich Arnold
--Lake Station

"Vernon is a man of his word. He has always been there for the city as our state representative."

--Shirley A. Wadding
--Mayor, Lake Station

Build Indiana Projects - District 14

Lake Station Civic Center	\$100,000
Lake Station Fire Truck	\$75,000
New Chicago Fire Dept. Improvements	\$50,000
New Chicago Road Grade Improvements	\$50,000
New Chicago Fire Truck	\$50,000

Additional Road Funding*

Lake Station	\$681,064
New Chicago	\$105,202
Hobart	\$1,207,702

*The 1997 and 1999 state budgets included an additional \$300 million for local road repairs. The amounts listed above are in addition to the total allocated for the county and are based on population.

Build Indiana reform package becomes law

Measure adds list of recipients along with various safeguards to important fund

We approved legislation this year to improve a Build Indiana Fund program that has provided millions of dollars in assistance for improvement projects across the state. Our district has benefited tremendously from this fund over the past several years with projects that otherwise might have been unfunded.

Without this fund, communities would not have been able to build senior citizens centers, firefighters would not have been able to purchase new trucks, and roads would have remained unimproved. These are projects that do make a difference.

House Bill 1360 expands the entities that can utilize the fund and the purposes for which they can use it. The legislation also establishes a number of safeguards to ensure that the money is being used for the intended purposes, including an expanded application and distribution procedure.

I welcome these changes because I believe in the value of the Build Indiana Fund. The program offers the chance to make important improvements at the local level without making local residents finance the projects through increased taxes or fees.

These projects have important long-term benefits for the community and the residents. With House Bill 1360, we have made a great program even better.

2002 Survey Responses

- 1. Would you support an increase in the state's cigarette tax to help finance state programs?
Yes 61% No 39%
- 2. Would you support a tax increase in order to avoid cutting education spending?
Yes 28% No 72%
- 3. In determining a way to restructure Indiana's tax code, who do you believe should pay the largest share?
A. Home Owners 0% B. Business Owners 4%
C. Farmers 0% D. Corporations 51%
E. None. Each group should pay an equal share 45%
- 4. Would you support increases in sales or income taxes to offset reductions in property taxes?
Yes 48% No 52%

- 5. Do you believe the state of Indiana should create a power authority to compete with public utilities in providing affordable electricity to consumers?
Yes 59% No 41%
- 6. Should state regulators have the authority to approve out-of-state mergers affecting public utilities?
Yes 56% No 44%
- 7. Do you support legislation that would allow continuous ingress / egress to riverboats by the public, often referred to as flexible boarding / dockside gaming?
Yes 53% No 47%
- 8. Should the state consider anti-terrorism legislation?
Yes 51% No 49%
- 9. Would you be in favor of requiring all schools in Indiana to start each day with a moment of silence and students reciting the Pledge of Allegiance?
Yes 66% No 34%

Rep. Dr. Vernon G. Smith



Indiana House of Representatives
200 W. Washington St.
Indianapolis, IN 46204
H14@in.gov

Prsrt Std
U.S. Postage
PAID
Indiana House of
Representatives